

REMARKS

This is intended as a full and complete response to the Final Office Action dated August 23, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire on November 23, 2004. Please reconsider the claims pending in the application for reasons discussed below.

Claims 4, 6-9, 11-13, 15, 16, 18-28, 30, 31, 33-38, 40, 41, 43, 45-51, 53 and 60-67 remain pending in the application and are shown above. Claims 4, 6-9, 11-13, 15, 16, 18-20, 22-28, 30, 31, 33-35, 37, 38, 41, 43, 45-47, 49 and 64-67 stand rejected. Claims 21, 36, 40, and 48 are indicated to be allowable by the Examiner if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 50, 51, 53 and 60-63 are allowed.

Applicants have canceled claims 21, 36, and 48, and added their subject matter to their respective base claim. Therefore, Applicants submit that base claims 1, 23, and 38 are now in condition for allowance, as well as those claims dependent therefrom.

Claim 64 is objected to because it depends on canceled claim 58. Applicants have amended claim 64 to correct an unintentional transcription error, not to distinguish a reference. Claim 64 was intended to depend from claim 63 that provides the correct antecedent basis for the "means for extraction" limitation found in claim 64. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the objection.

Claims 4, 6, 11, 12, 18, 23, 24, 30, 38, 40 and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by *Chavet* (WO 97/00928). Claims 7-9, 13, 15, 16, 19-20, 22-28, 31, 33-35, 37, 43, 45-47, 49 and 64-67 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over WO 97/00928. Applicants submit that these rejections have been obviated by the amendments to the base claims discussed above. As such, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections.

Having addressed all issues set out in the Final Office Action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,



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